

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9365

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 686

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CB

SUBJ: GKR OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK

1. CAMBODIAN AMB CHHUT CHHOEUR TOLD AMB BENNETT MARCH 5 AFTER RECEIVING DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON CAMBODIAN NEGOTIATIONS, HE OBVIOUSLY FEARED END IS NEAR. HE SAID HE WAS NOT WORRIED ABOUT SITUATION IN WASHINGTON WHERE GKR EMBASSY LONG ESTABLISHED AND OWNS ITS RESIDENCE. HE WAS SURE THINGS WOULD GO ON AS USUAL FOR SOMETIME.

2. IN NEW YORK, HOWEVER, GKR RENTS ITS OFFICE AND LIVING SPACE. THERE WAS EVEN QUESTION OF DAY-TO-DAY FOOD EXPENSES. HE SAID HE FELT OBLIGED TO BEGIN SOME ADVANCE PLANNING ON THIS.

3. AMB BENNETT REPLIED THAT WHILE SITUATION HAD NOT YET REACHED THAT STAGE OF SERIOUSNESS, HE RECOGNIZED DESIRABILITY OF SOME CONTINGENCY PLANNING. HE TOLD CHHUT USUN WOULD GIVE MATTER THOUGHT AND THEN BE IN TOUCH WITH HIM FOR DISCUSSION.

4. COMMENT: CHHUT CHHOEUR SOUNDED IN CONTROL OF HIMSELF BUT IS OBVIOUSLY UNDER GREAT STRAIN WITH STRONG FOREBODINGS. CHHUT REFERRED ONLY TO PROBLEM OF HIS MISSION WITHOUT ALLUDING TO KHMER STUDENTS OR OTHERS WHO MAY BE IN NEW YORK AREA ON GKR STIPENDS. WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF DEPT'S CONTINGENCY THINKING THIS SUBJECT AS IT DEVELOPS.
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